

# SCREWTOP Picture



## From SCREWTOP One:

This past month has been one of many changes, especially in our schedule and operating areas. As always, the flexibility and professionalism demonstrated by each and every member of the SCREWTOP team enabled us to adapt and maintain focus on safely executing our assigned mission. A highlight of this deployment, and highlight of a career, that happened in June was the time honored tradition of "Crossing the Line" (i.e. crossing the equator) ceremony in which all of the slimy pollywogs of the squadron were made into trusty shellbacks. The Steel Beach picnic and Morale Day that followed the same day will definitely be a fond memory of this cruise.

The ENTERPRISE sailed through the Suez Canal and entered the cooler waters of the Mediterranean Sea where the ship completed a very quick pit-stop for needed supplies in Souda Bay, Crete (unfortunately no liberty). From there it was on to a much needed port call on the island of Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Liberty in the Med during the summer doesn't get any better than Palma.

We appreciate all the work done by our families and loved ones at home in anticipation of our homecoming. I want to personally thank each and every one of you who have supported the SCREWTOP team this deployment; we quite simply could not have done it without your e-mails, letters, care packages, thoughts and prayers. THANK YOU!

**Doug Beaver**  
Commanding Officer

## From the OPERATIONS OFFICER:

As June comes to a close, the SCREWTOPS find themselves completing a much needed port call and preparing to return to Norfolk. Everyone enjoyed the visit to Palma after 73 long days underway, but we are even more excited that our homecoming is just around the corner.

In the 168 days since we left Norfolk, the SCREWTOPS have achieved many milestones. The Hawkeyes and aircrew have flown more than 890 flights, totaling over 1,450 flying hours in support of U. S. forces on the ground. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the hard work of the SCREWTOP Sailors in the Maintenance, Admin, and Safety departments. There are no statistics that can measure the daily contributions of these dedicated professionals.

As we start our trip home, I would like to thank all of you at home for your support throughout the deployment. Without your support, nothing we have done over the past five and a half months would have been possible.

## From the Family Readiness Group:

Night Before Party - It will be a Drop-in Ice Cream Social, so please bring your favorite ice cream topping to share and come when and for as long as you would like during that time period. We will have prizes and important information and details pertaining to Homecoming day available, so please try and attend if possible. Please contact the FRG for time and location.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with Homecoming preparations. If you are interested in helping, have any ideas, concerns, questions, or would like to receive emails and updates from the Family Readiness Group (FRG), please contact us at VAW123FRG@yahoo.com.

### Upcoming events

- Night Before Party
- Fly-In Homecoming
- Ship Homecoming
- First Post-Deployment Leave Period Begins

### Past Month's BIG "E" Sailors of the Day



**AD2 (AW)**  
**CHARLES WHITE**  
AIRCRAFT DIVISION



**AMAN**  
**ARMAND MANUEL SLADE**  
LINE DIVISION



**ATAN (AW)**  
**TYRONE NOBLE**  
LINE DIVISION